

Appendix

Glossary

E.0 Overview

The material in this glossary is largely taken from the International Pedestrian Lexicon available online at: <http://user.itl.net/~wordcraft/lexicon.html#a>. Other definitions came from a variety of other sources.

E.1 Definitions

AASHTO – American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials: it is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments of all transportation modes in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

ADA – American Disabilities Act of 1991. The Act gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities including equal opportunities in public accommodations, employment, transportation, State and local government services, and telecommunications.

Advance stop lines - applies to a stop line placed prior to a crosswalk, to either prevent encroachment, or to improve visibility it plays an important safety role especially in multi-lane roads

Alternative Transportation Network – a connected system for travel using transportation other than private cars, such as walking, bicycling, rollerblading, carpooling and transit

Arterial connections – interconnected corridors designed to accommodate a large volume of through traffic

Bargain sale - sale of a property at less than the fair market value. The difference between a bargain sale price and fair market value often qualifies as a tax-deductible charitable contribution.

BGMPO – Burlington Graham Metropolitan Planning Organization

Blank walls – relatively large walls of empty surface that provide opportunity for vandalism with graffiti. Set backs, special lighting, and aesthetic architectural interruptions are possible blank wall treatments.

Blighted building – a structure whose condition within the town, neighborhood or city is detrimental to the physical, social, and/or economic well-being of that community

Bridge culvert – a sewer or drain crossing used for the transference of surface water from a bridge

Buffer zone - an area of land specifically designed to separate one zoning use from another

Bulb-out - extended pavement to narrow roadway, or pinch through fare, or provide space for bus stop, bench, etc.

CAMPO - Captial Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

Concurrent signal timing - motorists running parallel to a crosswalk are allowed to turn into and through the crosswalk (left or right) after yielding to pedestrians

Condemnation - the taking of private property for public use, with adequate compensation to the owner, under the right of eminent domain

Connectivity - the logical and physical interconnection of functionally related points so that people can move among them

Conservation easement - a legally binding agreement not to develop part of a property, but to leave it “natural” permanently or for some designated very long period of time regardless of ownership transfer

Corridor - a spatial link between two or more significant locations

Crosswalk - a designated point on a road at which some means are employed to assist pedestrians wishing to cross. They are designed to keep pedestrians together where they can be seen by motorists, and where they can cross most safely with the flow of vehicular traffic.

Curb cut - a ramp leading smoothly down from a sidewalk to an intersecting street, rather than abruptly ending with a curb

Curb extension - a section of sidewalk at an intersection or midblock crossing that reduces the crossing width for pedestrians and is intended to slow the speed of traffic and increase driver awareness

Curb ramp - interruption in the curb, as for a driveway

Driveway apron – the section of a driveway between the sidewalk and the curb

Eminent domain - interruption in the curb, as for a driveway

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

Fee simple purchase – an outright purchase of the land by municipality

FHWA – Federal Highway Association

First right of refusal - the right specified in an agreement to have the first opportunity to purchase or lease a given property before it is offered to others

Fitness Trail - a pathway upon which users jog or walk from station to station to perform various exercise tasks

Greenway - a linear open space; a corridor composed of natural vegetation. Greenways can be used to create connected networks of open space that include traditional parks and natural areas.

High volume artery – an important transportation corridor that is used by large traffic levels

Hydrologic resources – stream and sewer corridors and buffer zones that can be used to facilitate the building of greenways

Incentive zoning - a system by which zoning incentives are provided to developers on the condition that specific physical, social, or cultural benefits are provided to the community

Intersection - an area where two or more pathways or roadways join together

Islands of vegetation - a landscaping feature that is planted with flora chosen for its ability to remove pollution and toxins. These spaces manage stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces; the water is slowed down, preventing erosion and allowing water to be absorbed into the ground.

Leaseback - the process of selling a property and also entering into a lease to continue using that property

Linear stream corridor - generally consists of the stream channel, floodplain, and transitional upland fringe aligned linearly

LPI – Leading pedestrian interval. Pedestrians are given the signal to begin crossing before parallel traffic.

Median - a median is a barrier, constructed of concrete, asphalt, or landscaping, that separates two directions of traffic

Median refuge island - island in the median, that offers a stopping or halfway point for a pedestrian

MPO – Metropolitan Planning District

MST – Mountains-to-Sea Trail

Municipal boundary – the limit of municipal jurisdiction

Nature trail - a marked trail designed to lead people through a natural environment which highlights and protects resources

NCDOT – North Carolina Department of Transportation

Negotiated dedications - a local government may ask a landowner to enter into negotiations for certain parcels of land that are deemed beneficial to the protection and preservation of specific parcel of land

Off-road trail – paths or trails in areas not served by the street system, such as parks and greenbelt corridors. Off-street paths are intended to serve both recreational uses and other trips, and may accommodate other non-motorized travel modes in addition to walking.

On-road pedestrian facility – any sidewalk, curb, or crosswalk designed for pedestrian use

Open space - empty or vacant land which is set aside for public or private use and will not be developed. The space may be used for passive or active recreation, or may be reserved to protect or buffer natural areas.

Overlay zone - a zone or district created by the local legislature for the purpose of conserving natural resources or promoting certain types of development. Overlay zones are imposed over existing zoning districts and contain provisions that are applicable in addition to those contained in the zoning law.

Pedestrian - a person on foot or a person on roller skates, roller blades, child's tricycle, non-motorized wheelchair, skateboard, or other non-powered vehicles (excluding bicycles)

Pedestrian corridor – refers to any on-road sidewalks

Planned unit development (PUD) - a project or subdivision that includes common property that is owned and maintained by a homeowners' association for the benefit and use of the individual PUD unit owners

Pocket park - a small area accessible to the general public that is often of primarily environmental, rather than recreational, importance; they can be urban, suburban or rural and often feature as part of urban regeneration plans in inner-city areas to

provide areas where wild life can establish a foothold.

Preservation easement – a voluntary legal agreement that protects historic, archaeological, or cultural resources on a property. The easement provides assurance to the property owner that intrinsic values will be preserved through subsequent ownership. In addition, the owner may obtain substantial tax benefits.

Public Access Easement – a voluntary legal agreement which grants a municipality a perpetual right-of-way and easement for public access and public benefit

Quality of life - a measure of the standard of living which considers non-financial factors such as health, functional status and social opportunities that are influenced by disease, injury, treatment or social and political policy

Retrofit - the redesign and reconstruction of an existing facility or subsystem to incorporate new technology, to meet new requirements, or to otherwise provide performance not foreseen in the original design

Right turn cut-off - the channel created in larger intersection by a very long turning radius and the construction of a pedestrian island, to which the pedestrian must cross before being in the formal intersection that is controlled by lights. The right-turn cut-off allows continuous right turns at fairly high speeds without stopping but the drivers who are meant to but at times do not yield to pedestrians.

Roundabout - traffic calming device at which traffic streams circularly around a central island after first yielding to the circulating traffic

ROW (right of way) - an easement held by the local jurisdiction over land owned by the adjacent property owners that allows the jurisdiction to exercise control over the surface and above and below the ground of the right-of-way; usually designated for passage

RTOR – Right turn on red

Sidewalk - an improved facility intended to provide for pedestrian movement; usually, but not always, located in the public right-of-way adjacent to a roadway. Typically constructed of concrete, but can be made with asphalt, bricks, stone, wood, and other materials.

Thoroughfare - a public road from one place to another, designed for high traffic volumes and essential connections

TND (traditional neighborhood development) - an area of land developed in a planned fashion for a compatible mixture of residential units for various income levels and nonresidential commercial and workplace uses, with a high priority placed on access to open spaces

Traffic calming - a range of measures that reduce the impact of vehicular traffic on residents, pedestrians and cyclists - most commonly on residential streets, but also now on commercial streets

Trip attractor - a location which, because of what it contains, generates itself as a destination for people

Village center - an area in a community where people naturally congregate